



Highland Valley Copper

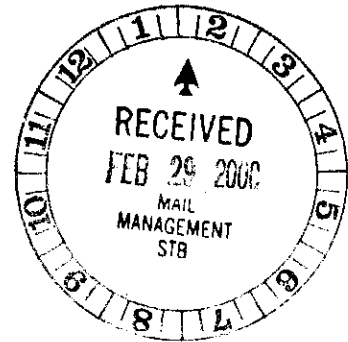
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February 24, 2000

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Office of the Secretary

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Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
Case Control Unit
Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 582
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

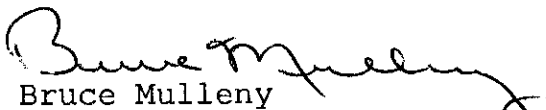
Dear Sir:

Highland Valley Copper is a B.C. based mining company that may on occasion utilize rail service in the U.S. but the majority of rail service is within Canada. Both the CN and CP provide a necessary service for our product movement.

The purpose of this letter is to convey our interests with regards to the proposed CN/BNSF merger.

If the merger makes CN a financially stronger company and in-turn allows for continued healthy competition amongst the available rail services for our company, then it is our position that the proposed merger should be heard by the Surface Transportation Board.

Sincerely,


Bruce Mulleney
Transportation Coordinator

